

# Together

North Little Rock  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Proclaiming Christ By Loving God and Serving God's People*

Volume 70 Issue 6 | March 14, 2017



## **NLR FUMC has New Members!**

Kevin, Amy, and Jacob Newsom joined in our WayPoint service on Sunday, March 5th. They have been active here at NLR FUMC for a few years and wanted to officially become members. Amy and Kevin joined by transfer from another denomination. Also during this special occasion, we had the privilege to baptize Jacob. Their son, Kaleb, is in confirmation and will join on Confirmation Sunday in June. Please join us in making the Newsom family welcome at NLR FUMC!

## **Congratulations, Sue Voegele!**

Long-time NLR FUMC member, Sue Voegele, will be honored by the University of Central Arkansas with the 2017 Alumni Service Award at the Night of Distinction benefit. The event will take place Saturday, April 29th beginning at 6 p.m. Proceeds from the event benefit student scholarships.

Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are recognized for outstanding contribution to the university, community, state or society; outstanding achievement in a particular field of endeavor; possessing a reputation that enhances the reputation of the university and serves as an example to UCA students; and contributing to the goals or the welfare of the University.

Sue is a 1962 UCA graduate, has been an active UCA Bear since 1958, when she first stepped onto campus. After graduating from UCA (then Arkansas State Teachers College), Sue worked as a schoolteacher for 35 years. She also coached volleyball and tennis.

We are thrilled to celebrate this exciting achievement with Sue!



**Contemporary Service 9:00**

The Reverend Lynn Kilbourne

**Sunday School 10:00**



**Argenta Service 10:30**

The Reverend Will Choate

**Sanctuary Service 11:00**

The Reverend Lynn Kilbourne



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## **from our Pastor >>>**

I confess I'm not good at fasting. I don't really like it. I don't do it well. When I think about spiritual disciplines I would much rather devote energy to practices on the list like prayer and scripture reading. Fasting is hard for me. I used to think that because fasting is so hard for me that God would understand why I don't do it more often. God knows that I get "hangry" when I miss a meal. Like the Snickers' commercials emphasize, I'm not me when I'm hungry. God wants me to be my best, and I am not my best when I have a hunger headache or cannot think about anything but my next meal. If God needs me to be focused on the work of ministry, of loving my neighbor, of caring for others, then God needs me to be eating.

At least that's what I would tell myself.

I read Lauren Winner's book, *Mudhouse Sabbath*, in which she has a chapter devoted fasting. She

wrote about how she, too, is not good at fasting. She, too, felt that because fasting was hard she should skip the practice. Her transformation into a person who fasts was challenging and inspiring to me. She reminded me that the hunger pains are part of the point of fasting, not a side effect only to be avoided. She writes that when you experience hunger you remember that you are "hungry for God." Her breath prayer in fasting is, "I am hungriest for God, my truest hunger is for God."

In the season of Lent we are all called to practice the spiritual discipline of fasting. We are all called to remember our truest hunger is for God. Fasting is hard. But it is a Means of Grace, a way that we open ourselves up to God's work of strengthening and confirming our faith so that we experience God's grace. This is the paradox of fasting. Somehow this practice makes us stronger. Thanks be to God.



Senior Pastor Lynn Kilbourne

## **...from our Minister of Youth and Families >>>**



Steven Carr

**Check out our UMY's website  
at [www.nlrfumc.org/nextlevel](http://www.nlrfumc.org/nextlevel)  
for up-to-date information  
on upcoming UMY events and activities!**



dreamstime.com

## **...from our Minister of Children and Families >>>**



Laura Kent

Something very cool is happening on Palm Sunday, April 9th during the Sunday School hour. A live donkey will be here leading Jesus into Jerusalem! Children AND ADULTS will be able to carry palm branches to line the path for Jesus to ride. Disciples will be following behind Jesus as well. Please participate in this and celebrate this wonderful time remembering an important time in the Christ story.

**During both services, we will have a procession of palms. We encourage anyone who wants to participate in this to please do so.**

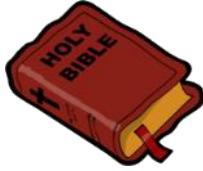


Our Easter Celebration will be a one day VBS-like event on Saturday, April 15th from 10:00-12:00! The children will be able to go from one activity to another each focused on the Resurrection of our Savior. Parents/grandparents are welcome and encouraged to walk with their children from one scheduled activity to another. We would love for this to be a family event. Everyone will be put into groups, so families can stay together. The Children's Ministry is looking for volunteers to help lead groups from one activity to another (led by other adults specifically for that activity). Please contact Laura Kent at [LKent@nlrfumc.org](mailto:LKent@nlrfumc.org) to let her know if you can assist!

Control      Expectations      Superiority  
 Enemies      Our Lives      Popularity      DEATH

# GIVE IT UP

Please join us each Sunday during this Lenten season  
 as we strive to "Give It Up."



**Revelation: A Message of Hope, a study of the Book of Revelation by Larry LeMasters.** Larry uses Power Point, humor and lots of discussion so it should be very interesting. Six Tuesdays from 6:30 till 8:00 beginning March 21. You may call Larry at 837-5964 with any questions and to register for class. Registration isn't required, but we'd appreciate it. You may also call the office to register. No cost.

The family of Marj Kelly  
 would like to invite each of you to a  
**90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration!**

A drop-in reception will take place in the church parlor on:

**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:15 – 2:30 pm**



**UMCOR Sunday  
 (formerly One Great  
 Hour of Sharing)  
 Is March 26, 2017**

When disaster strikes around the globe—Haiti's 2010 earthquake or Typhoon Haiyan in 2013—

so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel entirely helpless. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act. On this Sunday, we will take up a special offering for this effort. Please give generously.

**SAVE THE DATE:** An outside cleanup is being planned for Saturday morning April 8. We will be doing weeding in the flower beds and some raking -- just a spruce up for Easter. Volunteers are needed. If someone can't come and would like to donate \$ for mulch, that would be great. More info to come!



Plan ahead now to purchase delicious homemade goodies at the **UMW Palm Sunday Bake Sale** Sunday, April 9. Homemade cakes, cookies, breads and more will be available in the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., so stop by before or after Sunday School and worship. All proceeds will benefit local projects supported by our United Methodist Women.



**Want to make a difference in our community?** Consider becoming a Foster Grandparent at our Children's Enrichment Center (CEC)! Foster Grandparents are role models, mentors, and friends to children. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children. Foster Grandparents serve from 15-20 hours per week. Volunteers receive pre-service orientation, training from the organization where you will serve, free supplemental accident and liability insurance, and meals while on duty. Other benefits include: personal leave, state observed holidays off, free annual physical exam, and possible mileage reimbursement if volunteer qualifies. Volunteers who meet certain income guidelines also receive a small bi-weekly tax-exempt stipend. All you need to join is the ability to give the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on the path toward a successful future. If you're 55 or older and want to share your experience with compassion, you have what it takes to be a Foster Grandparent. **For more information or to request a Foster Grandparent Volunteer application, call (501) 682-7540.**

| <u>March 19</u>             | <u>March 26</u>                                 |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Financial Assist            | David Martin & Larry Tadlock                    |
| Van Driver:                 | David Barnett                                   |
| WayPoint Communion & Ushers | Duke & Linee Ophof, Angie Curran, and Bill Frye |
|                             | Duke & Linee Ophof, Angie Curran, and Bill Frye |

# ...events for the weeks of March 19 - April 2

## SUNDAY, March 19

9 & 11 Kid's Praise  
9:00 WayPoint Service\*  
10:00 Sunday School\*  
10:30 Argenta Service\*  
11:00 Sanctuary Service  
5:00 UMY NextLevel

## MONDAY, March 20

10:00 Faith N Action UMW Circle  
1:00 Nell Dyer UMW Circle  
6:30 Scouts Meeting

## TUESDAY, March 21

6:30 Bible Study  
9:30 Creative Hands  
5:00 Body & Soul Fitness  
6:30 Bible Study—Revelations

## WEDNESDAY, March 22

9:00 CEC Story Time  
9:30 Quilters  
5:00 JuBellation Ringers  
6:15 WOW  
6:30 Chapel Service  
6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## THURSDAY, March 23

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

10:00 Bible Study  
5:00 Body & Soul Fitness  
7:00 Faith Ringers

## SATURDAY, March 25

8:00 Body & Soul Fitness

## SUNDAY, March 26 **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

9 & 11 Kid's Praise  
9:00 WayPoint Service\*  
10:00 Sunday School\*  
10:30 Argenta Service\*  
11:00 Sanctuary Service\*  
11:00 Marj Kelly's 90th Birthday Drop-In Reception  
12:15 UMY NextLevel

## MONDAY, March 27

**NEWSLETTER WEEK**  
4:00 Broadway Bridge Project  
6:30 Scout Meetings

## TUESDAY, March 28

6:30 Bible Study  
9:30 Creative Hands Group  
1:30 UMW Leadership Meeting  
5:00 Body & Soul Fitness Class  
6:30 Bible Study—Revelations

## WEDNESDAY, March 29

9:00 CEC Story Time  
9:00 Quilters  
5:00 JuBellation Ringers  
6:00 UMY NextLevel  
6:15 WOW Group\*  
6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal\*  
6:30 Wacky Wednesday  
6:30 Chapel Service\*

## THURSDAY, March 30

10:00 Bible Study  
11:30 Lion's Club Business Mtg  
5:00 Body & Soul Fitness Class  
7:00 Faith Ringers Rehearsal

## SATURDAY, April 1

8:00 Body & Soul Fitness

## SUNDAY, April 2

9 & 11 Family Worship  
9:00 WayPoint Service\*  
10:00 Sunday School\*  
10:30 Argenta Service\*  
11:00 Sanctuary Service\*  
3:30 Confirmation Class  
5:00 UMY NextLevel

## **Let Us Pray >>>**

*May we pray during these days of Lent that we will be turned away from selfishness and pride and shallow, materialistic living and turned toward the face of our Lord and Savior.*

**\*Denotes Childcare Provided**



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